METHOD FOR QUICK IDENTIFICATION
OF SPECIAL DATA PACKETS

ABSTRACT

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In packetized data communication, certain special data packets must be identified quickly without the variable overhead of processing through the data protocol stack. A common example of such packets is those used for triggering events: immediate action must be taken on their arrival. This disclosure concerns a method for identifying such packets through the

10   use of the error checking codes which are usually included in packet transmission protocols. By adding appropriate bits to a special data packet before transmission, the error checking code can be forced to a specific, predetermined sequence which will be recognized by error checking hardware at a receiver. If the specific sequence is all ones (or all zeros), the recognition hardware can be simplified.

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